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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1761

09/707,184

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Venkatachalam Narayanaswamy et al.	Examiner: Thuy Lien Tran
Serial No.:	09/707,184	Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed:	November 6, 2000	Docket: 869.005US1
Title:	INERT-GAS BASED LEAVENED DOUGH SYSTEM	

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the final Office Action mailed May 29, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 27 and 31. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

1. (Amended) A ready-to-use dough article, comprising:

a substantially gas-impermeable container;

a[n elastic gluten based] dough [having a cellular network] disposed within the container, comprising:

flour and sugar wherein the ratio of sugar to flour is in a range of about 0.0 to 0.75 to 1], a fat and water wherein the water activity is less than about 0.85; and an inert gas disposed within the container and within the cellular network of the dough containing less than 4% residual oxygen wherein the dough is substantially